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Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims replaces all previous versions and listings of the claims.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method comprising steps of:
 - (a) accelerating a medium at a first acceleration rate to a first velocity;
 - (b) subsequently accelerating the medium at a second acceleration rate different than the first acceleration to a second velocity different than the first velocity; and
 - ~~(c) moving a transducer over the medium from a parked position responsive to a one of the first velocity and second velocity.~~
2. (Currently amended) A method as defined in claim 1, ~~wherein the second velocity is a final rotational velocity creating and maintaining an air bearing as the transducer radially traverses the medium between an inner diameter and an outer diameter~~ further comprising moving a transducer adjacent the medium from a parked position responsively to a one of the accelerating steps (a) and (b).
3. (Currently amended) A method as defined in claim 2 wherein the second velocity is a target velocity, further comprising the step of accelerating the medium at at least one more acceleration rate rates between accelerating steps (a) and (b).
4. (Currently amended) A method as defined in claim 2, wherein:
the accelerating step (a) comprises accelerating the medium at the first acceleration rate between an initial time corresponding to an initial rotational velocity and a first predetermined time ~~corresponding to the first velocity~~; and
the accelerating step (b) comprises accelerating the medium at the second acceleration rate between the first predetermined time and a second predetermined time ~~corresponding to the second velocity~~.

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5. (Currently amended) A method as defined in claim ~~[[1]]~~ 2, wherein the moving step (c) comprises a step of displacing the transducer from a landing zone.

6. (Currently amended) A method as defined in ~~[[1]]~~ 2, wherein one of the first velocity and second velocity is an early exit velocity creating an air bearing as the transducer exits the a landing zone.

7. (Previously presented) A method as defined in claim 6 further comprising a step of (d) accelerating the medium at a third acceleration rate between the first and second acceleration rates.

Claims 8-12 (Canceled).

13. (Currently amended) An apparatus including circuitry and executable program instructions that are configured to perform ~~a method~~ an exit sequence comprising steps of:

- (a) accelerating a storage disc at a first acceleration rate ~~to a first rotational velocity~~;
- (b) accelerating the storage disc at a different second acceleration rate ~~after achieving the first rotational velocity to a second rotational velocity~~; and
- (c) as the storage disc rotates at a one of the group consisting of the first acceleration rate ~~rotational velocity~~ and the second rotational velocity ~~acceleration rate~~, moving a transducer from a landing zone region of the storage disc to a data storage region of the storage disc.

14. (Currently amended) An apparatus as defined in claim 13, wherein a one of the accelerating steps (a) and (b) achieves a threshold ~~the second rotational velocity is a final rotational velocity~~ creating and maintaining an air bearing as the transducer radially traverses across the disc between an inner diameter and an outer diameter.

15. (Currently amended) An apparatus as defined in claim 14, wherein:

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~~accelerating the storage disc to the first rotational velocity at first acceleration rate from;~~

~~accelerating the storage disc to the second rotation velocity at a second acceleration rate~~ the threshold velocity is an early-exit velocity.

16. (Currently amended) An apparatus as defined in claim [[14]] 13, wherein:
the accelerating step (a) comprises accelerating the storage disc at [[a]] the first acceleration rate between an initial time corresponding to an initial rotational velocity and a first time corresponding to the first rotational velocity; and
the accelerating step (b) comprises accelerating the storage disc at [[a]] the second acceleration rate between the first predetermined time and a second predetermined time corresponding to the second rotational velocity.

17. (Currently amended) An apparatus as defined in claim [[16]] 13, wherein the ~~moving step (c) of the method comprises a step of displacing the transducer from the landing zone~~ accelerating step (b) achieves a target velocity.

Claim 18 (canceled).

19. (Currently amended) An apparatus as defined in claim [[15]] 17, wherein the ~~method exit sequence~~ further comprises a step of (d) accelerating the storage disc at a different third acceleration rate between the first and second acceleration rates.

Claims 20-24 (canceled).

25. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:
a transducer attached to an actuator arm and parkable on a landing zone on a surface of a medium, the transducer being operable to ~~move over~~ fly adjacent the surface of the medium [[as]] when the medium reaches a desired velocity;
and

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circuitry configured for accelerating the medium at multiple acceleration rates to achieve corresponding velocities, wherein one of said velocities is the desired velocity.

26. (Currently amended) An apparatus as defined in claim 25 wherein the circuitry is configured for moving the transducer ~~is moved~~ from adjacent the landing zone ~~over the medium~~ responsive to the medium achieving the desired velocity.

27. (Currently amended) An apparatus as defined in claim 26, wherein the ~~threshold rotational~~ desired velocity is a final rotational velocity ~~creating and maintaining an air bearing between the transducer and the surface of the disc as the transducer radially traverses across the disc between an inner diameter and an outer diameter.~~

28. (Currently amended) An apparatus as defined in claim 26, wherein the ~~threshold rotational~~ desired velocity is an early exit velocity ~~creating an air bearing between the transducer and the surface of the disc as the transducer exits the landing zone and accesses the data region.~~

29. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the first acceleration rate is greater than the second acceleration rate.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 2 wherein the step of moving is responsive to the medium rotating at the second velocity.

32. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim ~~[[13]]~~ 14 wherein the ~~transducer~~ moving step is ~~moved~~ responsive to the storage disc rotating at the ~~threshold velocity~~ first acceleration rate.

33. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim ~~[[13]]~~ 14 wherein the ~~transducer~~
moving step is ~~moved~~ responsive to the storage disc rotating at the ~~first rotational~~
~~velocity~~ second acceleration rate.

34. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the accelerating step
(a) accelerates the storage disc at ~~[[a]]~~ the first acceleration rate to ~~the~~ a first
predetermined rotational velocity and the accelerating step (b) accelerates the storage disc
at ~~[[a]]~~ the second acceleration rate to ~~the~~ a second predetermined rotational velocity.

35. (New) A multi-phase acceleration system capable of increasing rotational
velocity of a storage medium by accelerating the medium at multiple acceleration rates
within predetermined time intervals.

36. (New) A method for increasing rotational velocity of a storage medium
comprising accelerating the medium at multiple acceleration rates within predetermined
time intervals.

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